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STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

Northwest Regional Office, 3190 - 160th Ave S.E. • Bellevue, Washington 98008-5452 • (206) 649-7000

January 8, 1993

Ms. Ingrid Williams
Dames & Moore, Inc.
500 Market Place Tower
2025 First Avenue
Seattle, WA 98121

Re: UST closure and petroleum contamination at Alaska Marine Lines,
7100 2nd Ave, Seattle, Washington.

Dear Ms. Williams:

Thank you for submitting the four reports documenting the tank closure and site assessment at the above site. This letter is in response to your request for comments.

Two 10,000 gallon UST's have been removed from the site. Petroleum contamination related to these UST's in both the soil and groundwater has been identified. Petroleum contamination which may not be associated with these UST's has also been identified on site. No attempts to remediate the soil or groundwater contamination have been made beyond the removal of the UST's.

Your reports conclude that the only current risk to human health and the environment caused by this contamination would be from contaminant migration into the Duwamish River and that the low hydraulic conductivity along with natural biodegradation may prevent the contaminants from reaching the Duwamish.

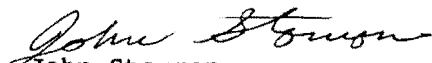
Until soil and groundwater cleanup levels have been attained the Department of Ecology cannot consider this a completed cleanup. This site is in an industrial area and the groundwater's potential for use as a drinking water source is limited. Migration of the contaminants off site or into the Duwamish River is Ecology's major concern.

A long-term groundwater monitoring program will be necessary to document that contaminant migration is not occurring. The August 16, 1992 sampling of MW5, MW6 and MW7 indicated the presence of hydrocarbons that do not match the expected pattern for diesel or gasoline. These samples were not analyzed for heavy hydrocarbons. Soil contamination in the heavy hydrocarbon range has been identified on site. To conclude that hydrocarbon contamination is not migrating off site, the analysis should include all contaminants known to be on site.

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This site will remain listed as a contaminated site until soil and groundwater cleanup levels have been attained. If the owners of the site wish to proceed by simply monitoring the groundwater to demonstrate that contaminants are not migrating, then the analysis should include all contaminants known to exist on the site. This site is an independent cleanup and as such any technical assistance provided by the Department of Ecology is strictly advisory and is not binding on the site owner or the Department of Ecology. A consent decree must be entered with the Department of Ecology before direct oversight of a cleanup can be provided. Please contact me at 649-7274 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,


John Stormon
Hydrogeologist
Toxics Cleanup Program

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